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Norman Cross
Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

upon the

Sanitary Condition of the District
During the year 1962

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NORMAN CROSS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : T. E. R. PARSONS

Mrs. K. MARIS

Miss E. E. BROWN

H. WILLIAMS, J.P.

REV. A. E. BISHOP

(Chairman of the Council)

G. WALKER

E. D. WATSON

G. H. ROME

C. SMITH

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health P. V. CANT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector H. E. REEVE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health

Inspector... A. E. BENNETT, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

To The Norman Cross Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my fifth Annual Report upon the sanitary conditions of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1962.

The District lies in the north of the County of Huntingdonshire, being made up of a number of villages. The chief industries are agriculture and brick-making, and there is also some engineering and a tar distillery. Peterborough is easy of access, and a considerable number of the inhabitants of the District work in the town. The A.1 road runs right through the area, and is now a dual carriageway.

The health of the District has been satisfactory during the year, and there has been very little notifiable disease.

This year the Registrar General estimated the mid-year population to be 8,920, being an increase of 220 over the previous year.

The live birth rate (16.9) when adjusted becomes 17.9 which is close to the national figure of 18.0 per thousand population.

The death rate (9.0) when adjusted becomes 10.9, comparing favourably with a national figure of 11.9 per thousand population.

There were three infant deaths, and no maternal deaths during the year.

The new County Council Clinic on Whittlesey Road, Stan-
ground came into operation in March, 1962. It is giving Maternity and Child Welfare, Immunisation, School and Dental Clinic services and there is an administrative block where I am now situated. There is also a County Mental Health and Social Welfare worker based in these Offices. This service is proving of great value to the District, having previously been supplied by staff based on Huntingdon.

On the building site near to the Church at Stilton 19 houses were under construction by the Council at the end of the year, and 30 are expected to have been completed by the end of 1963. When these are completed work can begin on the 15 acre site which has been purchased at Farcet.

There has been rapid progress in Private Enterprise building during the year, a record total of 91 dwellings having been completed. Most of this building has been in the Orton Longueville area, and at Yaxley.

In my report last year I recorded that the water supply throughout most of the District had been improved, but was barely sufficient in some areas. Due to the considerable amount of building which is going on the situation is now deteriorating again and some major improvement is required in the near future.

The scheme for the sewerage of Elton, Holme and Sibson-cum-Stibbington was again delayed for some time since the Ministry required a report on the treatment of farm wastes to be made before they would allow the work to proceed. This was a difficult report to make, and involved the Surveyor's Department in considerable work. It was decided that the Council would not accept farm wastes into the new sewers, and the Ministry have accepted this. Everything possible is being done by the Council and their Officers to push forward this urgent scheme.

Finally, I wish to thank Members of the Council and their Officers and staff for the help which they have given me throughout the year.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	35795 acres
Estimated Population (mid 1962)	8920
Density of persons per acre	0.25
Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1962	2902
Rateable Value, 31/12/62	£121,543
Value of Penny Rate, 31/3/1962	£475

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births	151
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	16.9
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.3
Still-births	4
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births	25.8
Total live and still-births	155
Infant deaths	3
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total	19.9
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births	Nil
Death rate per 1,000 population	9.0

INFANT DEATHS

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Actual Number of Deaths	1	2	5	0	4	3
Rates All Infants Per 1,000 Live Births	7.4	14.7	37.9	0	25.8	19.9
Deaths from Cancer (total)						17
Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus						3
Coronary Disease—angina						15
Other Heart Disease						12
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)						Nil

Comparison of rates with those of England & Wales.

	Per 1,000 Population				Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Total Births
	Live Birth Rate	Ad-justed Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Ad-justed Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate	Still Births Rate
Norman Cross R.D.C.	16.9	17.9	9.0	10.9	19.9	25.8
England & Wales	—	18.0	—	11.9	21.4	18.1

Comparability Factor for Births	1.06
Comparability Factor for Deaths	1.21

(The Comparability Factors are figures by which the crude-birth and death rates need to be multiplied so as to find the adjusted rates. The adjusted rates are then comparable with the rates for England and Wales, or the adjusted rates of any other place in the Country.

The Registrar General calculates the factors from information available to him concerning, amongst other things, the age and sex structure of the population.)

The following table shows the classification of deaths from all causes (Registrar-General's figures) :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males	Females	Totals
All Causes.	45	35	80
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	—	—
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	7	3	10
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	6	10
18. Coronary disease, angina	11	4	15
19. Hypertension with heart disease	—	—	—
20. Other heart disease	4	8	12
21. Other circulatory disease	1	1	2
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	2	2	4
24. Bronchitis	3	1	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	—	—	—
28. Nephritis & nephrosis	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	—	—	—
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	3	5	8
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	4	—	4
34. All other accidents	1	—	1
35. Suicide	—	—	—
36. Homicide & operations of war	—	—	—

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector's Office,
18 Priestgate,
Peterborough.
16th August, 1963.

To:—The Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have the honour to present my thirteenth Annual Report, for the year ended 31st December, 1962.

HOUSING: The number of new dwellings built since 1945 is as follows:

(a) By the District Council.

	UP TO 31.12.1960		DURING 1961		DURING 1962
Alwalton	4	Morborne	4	Yaxley	46
Chesterton	2	Orton Longueville	6		1 House
Elton	18	Orton Waterville	10		and Shop
Farcet	44	Stibbington	2		
Folksworth	2	Stilton	28		
Glatton	4	Yaxley	138		
Holme	20				
Totals	282			46	1 = 329

With the 87 pre-war and war-time houses, the Council now own 416 dwellings.

Dwellings under construction by Council:

Stilton—4 Houses and 15 Bungalows.

Plan Approved or in Preparation:

Sites at Stilton (Extension), Farcet, Alwalton and Elton.

(b) **By Private Developers:** The number of dwellings completed since January, 1947, is as follows:—

YEAR	HOUSES	BUNGALOWS	TOTAL
1947/52	33	11	44
1953	20	6	26
1954	20	26	46
1955	24	26	50
1956	29	31	60
1957	16	32	48
1958	19	16	35
1959	13	44	57
1960	41	36	77
1961	30	42	72
1947—61	245	270	515

Completed during 1962:

PARISH	HOUSES	BUNGALOWS	TOTALS
Alwalton		3	3
Chesterton		3	3
Farcet		2	2
Folksworth	5	1	6
Glatton		3	3
Holme	1		1
Orton Longueville	10	38	48
Orton Waterville ..	1		1
Stibbington		1	1
Stilton	2	2	4
Waternewton	1		1
Yaxley	12	6	18
	32	59	91

Total private dwellings erected since 1947=606.
Private dwellings under construction at 31st December, 1962=
42 Houses and 41 Bungalows=83 Dwellings.

Private Enterprise Housing: The construction of 91 dwellings during 1962 is a record for this district. Construction continues steadily at Lady Lodge Estate, Orton Longueville, and there is sufficient land for several more years at the same rate of progress. Work has commenced on an estate of approximately 40 acres at the rear of Latham Avenue; two firms will be building on this estate, one already having 18 houses and 15 bungalows under construction.

In the other parishes private enterprise building has mainly been infilling, although it now seems that work will commence on a large area at Dundee Estate, Yaxley, in 1963. The number of plans submitted for new building shews a considerable increase over 1961 (552 applications as compared with 349), and it seems clear that the small builders will continue with single plots and small areas and that by the end of 1963 there will also be at least four large contractors buildings estates within the district; this will pose a problem requiring extra technical staff if proper building inspection is to be done. The increase in new properties also emphasises the need for early improvements to the water distribution system, which is already insufficient.

Details of plans and applications submitted during the year are as follows:

New Houses	96	Conversions to Dwellings	11
Bungalows	197	Electricity Lines ..	16
Garden, Tool & Store		Greenhouses and	
Sheds	6	Conservatories ..	7
Agricultural Buildings	6	Temporary Dwellings	2
Garages	67	Caravan Applications	23
Outline Applications ..	45	Miscellaneous	32
Notices and Signs ..	12		
New Accesses	5		
Alterations and Additions	27		

Council House Building: Although the figures in paragraph 1 shew that only one house and shop was completed during 1962, there are 19 dwellings under construction in the first stage at Church Close, Stilton and there should be 30 completed before the end of 1963; the site purchased has room for 30 more dwellings and is so designed that neighbouring land can be linked with the existing and new roads.

A layout has been prepared for the 15 acre site purchased at Farcet and detailed planning of the first stage is well advanced so that construction can be commenced after completion of the Stilton site.

Negotiations have continued with the site for Old People's Flatlets at Broadway/Queen Street, Yaxley, but difficulties in connection with access to adjoining land scheduled for residential development in the Village Plan have caused delay and may make it necessary to purchase additional land.

There have been frustrating delays in the completion of the layout for development of land at Oundle Road, Alwalton, and although some of the difficulties now seem to have been overcome and many designs prepared it has still not been possible to obtain a layout that meets the requirements of various conflicting interests and at the same time will be satisfactory for a Planning Application.

Now that the Yaxley Queen Street Estate is complete and the likely development progress at Stilton and Farcet is reasonably clear, it is suggested that during 1963 it will be necessary to have a re-appraisal of the Council Housing situation, bringing the waiting list up-to-date as accurately as possible and carefully considering slum clearance and general need, bearing in mind sites already in hand, villages likely to have main drainage, etc., and then to prepare a plan in broad outline for the next 5 years, so that negotiations can commence for any land required and plans be prepared and consents obtained to enable a steady building programme to continue.

Housing Action and Improvement. No Demolition Orders or Closing Orders were made during the year, but 8 houses were demolished (1 as a result of a Demolition Order) and 2 Undertakings not to relet accepted. There is still much to be done in this direction when further new Council Houses are available.

Applications were received during the year for 6 Discretionary Grants and 20 Standard Grants, approximately the same as last year.

There are no common lodging houses or overcrowding within the meaning of the Housing Acts.

Water Supply. All the Authorities taking water in bulk from Peterborough City again imposed a restriction on the use of hosepipes for watering gardens or washing private motor cars during the summer period. Nevertheless there were still difficulties in maintaining the

supply, mainly due to an insufficient supply on the Oundle Road intake; this made it necessary to supply more of the area from the Yaxley Booster to relieve the Orton side. The situation now is that the system is just sufficient for the normal demand, but if for any reason there is an increase in water consumption then the greatest ingenuity by the Water Department Staff is necessary to maintain a supply. Various minor works were carried out during the year in an attempt to improve pressure at Folksworth and aid the supply position generally, but it is clear that the Comprehensive Improvement Scheme is an urgent necessity.

As a result of tests made in conjunction with the Consulting Engineers it has been established that there is a restriction in the main in Oundle Road, within the City area. As this has a limiting effect on the intake to Orton Longueville Booster it was agreed that the R.D.C. would pay 50% of the cost of laying a new main.

Negotiations continued slowly during the year on the question of an amalgamation of water undertakings or the formation of a Water Board for the area. The Minister's intention in urging the re-grouping of water undertakings is to promote the most effective use of water resources of the country and to provide a reliable service supplying at an economic cost the quantity and quality of water that consumers need. The Minister considers that in modern conditions these aims can hardly be achieved unless water undertakings are large enough for local sources to be developed to the best advantage, for major capital works to be financed and supervised, and for the expert full-time staff to be employed which is needed for the safe and economic conduct of the undertakings.

There is no doubt that there could be advantages to this area if it was possible to take a wider view, both in abstraction and distribution of water.

Routine and maintenance items during the year included the installation of a Cathodic protection unit in the "Braithwaite" Tank at Keeper's Hill, Elton, and fitting of new motors to the three pumps at the Orton Booster Station.

A period of very cold weather in December, 1962, caused some damage to services with resultant waste, again causing supply difficulties.

During the year 105 Domestic, 13 Metered and 96 Building Supplies were connected. There were 26 burst mains and 31 burst services. Water consumption was 53,993.9 thousand gallons on metered supplies and 81,203.1 thousand gallons on domestic, a total of 135,197 thousand gallons. The domestic consumption was 24.9 gallons per head per day. On the total supply the consumption was 41.5 gallons per head per day.

The statistics of the water supply to the District are as follows:—

PARISH	Number of Premises	Number Without Main Water	Number of Houses Supplied from Main	Population Supplied from Main
Alwalton	81		81	251
Chesterton	39		39	122
Denton and Caldecote	27	3	24	65
Elton	179		179	554
Farcet	383	1	382	1,177
Folksworth	83		83	258
Washingley	15	4	11	22
Glatton	57	3	54	159
Haddon	22		22	68
Holme	151		151	466
Morborne	17		17	53
Orton Longueville	456	1	455	1,413
Orton Waterville	112		112	346
Sibson-cum-Stibbington	150	3	147	446
Stilton	220		220	682
Waternewton	33	1	32	99
Yaxley	877	7	870	2,670
TOTAL	2,902	23	2,879	8,851

There are no street standpipes.

The water supplied to the district is purchased in bulk from Peterborough and is distributed to all Parishes.

Thirty-three samples of water were taken during the year, and were sent for bacteriological examination. Six samples were unsatisfactory; 3 of these were on one supply, the fault being traced to a faulty tap which was replaced and the other three were on new estate mains where satisfactory samples were subsequently obtained. No chemical examinations of water were made during the year.

The main water is within the "very hard" category and is not plumbo-solvent.

There are no public swimming baths in the district.

Drainage. By the end of 1962 drains from 1,491 properties had been connected to the public sewers in Yaxley, Farcet, Stilton, Orton Longueville and Orton Waterville.

9 Cesspools were abolished and the properties connected to the public sewer.

21 Pails or vaults were converted to W.C's.

41 New Septic Tanks were provided in unsewered areas.

The old settlement beds at Farcet have been modified in an effort to obtain an improved effluent.

The Drainage Scheme for Sibson-cum-Stibbington, Elton and Holme (Contracts 9, 10 & 11), received Ministry approval in principle, subject to the submission of a report on farm wastes and the lodging of detailed drawings of the proposed sewage disposal works. A report on farm wastes was prepared by the consultants and considered by the Council; the Council decided to inform the Ministry that it was not proposed to accept farm drainage into the new sewers in view of (a), the very high additional expenditure that would be necessary to include for plant to deal with this very difficult effluent, and (b), the Engineer's opinion that even then a satisfactory effluent could not be guaranteed. This decision was accepted by the Ministry and instructions were given for the preparation of detailed drawings of the new disposal works.

Visits were made during the year with representatives of Messrs. G. B. Kershaw & Kaufman to Alwalton, Chesterton and Folksworth, to assist the consultants in the preparation of their Report on the foul drainage of these Parishes. Visits were also made to Waternewton, to ensure that this village could eventually be drained to one of the new sewers.

Refuse Collection. The collection scheme was altered in April, 1962, the bins now being collected from the rear and returned to the front gate. This system has been generally satisfactory, but for various reasons it is obvious that a weekly collection, envisaged in 1961 as the next step in improving the scheme, should be commenced without too much delay. The increasing weight of refuse, and more especially the increasing bulk, is causing problems everywhere. Central heating systems, the increasing tendency to package all goods, the tremendous use of paper and plastic wrappings and the definite improvement in living standards all have a bearing on the trend towards increased amounts of waste material; the small gardens in many modern properties also make it difficult to dispose of waste materials by burning or composting. The answer is undoubtedly to improve the frequency of collection.

There is little or no market for waste paper or cardboard and the increasing amount now being tipped causes difficulties on the tips and is filling the available area much too quickly. More use of mechanical equipment and more expenditure on soil for covering will be necessary to keep the tips tidy. A careful survey of the tips in use will soon be necessary, to see how long the existing areas will last and whether a new tip should be sought.

Meat and Food Inspection. The slaughterhouse at Farcet again continued to operate with an increased kill, over 1,000 more pigs being inspected this year than in 1961. Regular overtime is worked at the slaughterhouses, the majority of the carcasses requiring inspection during late evening or on Sundays. 100% inspection has been maintained, the statistics being as follows:—

Carcases and Offal Inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	151	—	14	578	5993	—
Number inspected	151	—	14	578	5993	—

**All diseases except
Tuberculosis & Cysticerci**

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	3	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	—	—	—	260	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	5.29	—	—	—	4.338	—

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	237	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	3.95	—

Cysticercosis

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Statistics relating to Food Premises are as follows :—

1. No. of Food Premises by type of business.

Bakehouses	2	} 93 Premises. (None has been counted under more than one heading).
Butchers	4	
Cafes	4	
Fish and Chips	5	
General	33	
Greengrocers	1	
Public Houses, Clubs	26	
Sweets	10	
Poultry	3	
Works Canteens	5	

2. No. of Food Premises by type registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Bakehouses	Nil
Butchers	3
General Dealers	27
Public Houses	2
Sweets	8
Fish and Chips	5
Cafe	2

3. No. of inspections of registered food premises—187

4. Any new Educational activity—Nil

5. Method of disposal of condemned foods—
Stained green and removed by Contractor. Subsequently treated at Waste Products Plant.

Miscellaneous.

A Junior Clerk was appointed and commenced work on 17th September, 1962.

A Rural Planning Policy document was published by the County Council during the year, defining broadly the future development in the County.

Factories Act Inspections are as follows :—

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1959

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories without power	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Factories with power	27	7	Nil	Nil
Building Sites etc.,	38	30	Nil	Nil

Defects	Found	Remedied	Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences unsatisfactory	2	2	Nil

Outworkers. Making wearing apparel 1. Conditions satisfactory.

3,885 visits were made by Public Health Inspectors, as follows :—

New Buildings	337	Caravans	34
Sewers and Drains	515	Civil Defence	1
Rodents	20	Council, Committees and	
Refuse Disposal	72	Conferences	44
Water Supply	139	Vermin	3
Council Houses	409	Interviews	1,736
Infectious Diseases	3	Miscellaneous	118
Meat and Food	187	Factories Acts	38
Housing & Public Health Act	229		

I should like to thank the Council and my colleagues for their help and consideration during the year and add a particular note of thanks to Mr. Bennett for his work in what I know to have been a hectic time when I was on sick leave from 24th January to 12th March.

H. ERIC REEVE,
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

The following table gives the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) in the area during 1962.

Total Deaths	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Cases admitted to Hospital	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
65 & upwards	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
45 — 65	|	|	|	|	1	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|
35 — 45	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
20 — 35	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
15 — 20	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
10 — 15	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|
5 — 10	|	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
4 — 5	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
3 — 4	|	|	|	|	|	2	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
2 — 3	|	|	|	|	|	2	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
1 — 2	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
under 1 year	|	|	|	|	|	1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
TOTAL	|	|	|	|	1	7	1	2	|	|	|	|	|	|
DISEASE	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

	Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Smallpox	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Jaundice	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Meningococcal Meningitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Food Poisoning	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Dysentery	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Tuberculosis.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL:—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

I am,
Your obedient servant,
PHILIP V. CANT,
Medical Officer of Health.

The Health Clinic,
Whittlesey Road,
Stanground,
Nr. Peterborough.
Tel. Peterborough 68010

